Senate Session - Part II - Beer to go amendment Sen. Buckingham comments, May 22, 2019

@ 2:30:29

Senator Dawn Buckingham: Thank you, Mr. President. Members. I just want to take a quick moment to say, you know what we stand at our best when we stand together and we come together on an issue that's been decisive in the past. That's the great thing about the Texas Senate and that is why I love serving here.

Our constituents elected us to be bold and with that, I give you Beer-to-Go baby!

So, before I begin I want to sincerely thank Representative Eddie Rodriguez, Chairman Birdwell, the Beer Alliance of Texas, the Craft Brewers Guild and the Wholesale Beer Distributors of Texas for working together to reach this amendment.

It is with this understanding that I can tell you this amendment is more than just about selling Beer-to-Go. It is about job creation, economic development, tourism and support for entrepreneurship - issues that I know that are important to every one of you in this room.

Under this amendment's provisions, craft breweries would be able to sell up to one case of beer per person, per calendar day.

The amendment retains the 5,000 barrel limit for taproom sales, and any amount sold direct to consumer for on or off-premise consumption would count against this cap.

It adds labeling and reporting requirements as well as directs TABC to adopt administrative penalties for violation under this section. I believe the amendment is acceptable to the author and I move adoption.

Lt. Governor Dan Patrick: And Senator I know you worked very hard on this again throughout the process being willing to do what it takes to make sure the Senate could be unified together as opposed to being separated.

Senator Brian Birdwell: It is acceptable to the author Mr. President.

Lt. Governor Dan Patrick: (laughs) Everyone needs to pop a top on that one. Any objection, hearing none.

That amendment is adopted.